Import Duty on Copper

2095. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Copper Limited has urged the Central Government not to reduce import duty on copper;

(b) whether it is also a fact that if the import duty is reduced the domestic producer will not be able to get fair price for the copper produced; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The import duty on copper is determined keeping in view the interests of both the domestic consumers and M/s. Hindustan Copper Limited, the domestic producer. Changes in import duty are effected, whenever necessary, having regard to the international prices. The import duty on unwrought copper was reduced from 140 per cent to 95 per cent *ad valorem* in December, 1987 in view of the rise in international prices.

The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has been asked to study the normative cost of copper produced by Hindsutan Copper Limited and also evolve a suitable pricing policy for copper keeping in view the interests of the indigenous producer, the importing agency and the consumers.

Murder of House-Wives in Delhi

2096. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a growing incidence of the murders of housewives in Delhi in the recent past; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the sudden spurt in crime and the steps taken to prevent such incidents in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Implementation of a Supreme Court Judgement

2097. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court judgement of 1985 in which the Court had sentenced Sudha Goel's husband and mother-in-law to death for her murder has remained unimplemented till recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The police has to act on the directions of the Court in this regard. Non-bailable warrants issued by the Additional Session Judge, Delhi, for the arrest of the husband and the mother-in-law were received on 16th January, 1988. The mother-in-law was produced in the court on the 23rd January, 1988 and the other accused surrendered in the court on the same day. They were sent to jail by the court on the 23rd January, 1988.

News-Item regarding Police Torture

2098. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 25th December, 1987 regarding the killing of a 9 year old boy allegedly by police torture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and